

birds

111

SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS
OF THE
CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

VOL. IV

ISSUED, SEPTEMBER 19, 1932

No. 1

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW BIRDS FROM OREGON,
CHIEFLY FROM THE WARNER
VALLEY REGION

BY

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER

One of the significant developments of ornithology in western North America has been the discovery and exposition of the centers of subspecific differentiation. Such centers are represented by the Victoria Mountains of southern Lower California, the San Pedro Martir Mountains of northern Lower California, the White Mountains of central eastern California, the Charleston Mountains of southwestern Nevada, the Puget Sound region of western Washington, and other localities.

A recent ornithological investigation of the region including the Warner Valley and Warner Mountains of central southern Oregon has shown that this is another such area, and one of unusual importance. Mr. Alex Walker spent several months here in the summer of 1930, collecting birds for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, an expedition made possible by the generous interest of Mrs. Dudley S. Blossom of Cleveland.

The birds described in the following pages have in most cases their center of distribution in this area, and although some of them have a rather wide range in the western United States, and one occurs only on the Pacific slope, most of them are either confined to the Warner Valley or Warner Mountains or have a somewhat limited distribution north and south of this region. Practically all of them are represented by good series of specimens.

Measurements are taken as described by Baldwin, Oberholser, and Worley, in 'Measurements of Birds,' published as Volume II of the Scientific Publications of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Oct. 14, 1931.

Thanks are due Mr. Stanley G. Jewett and Mr. Ludlow Griscom for the loan of comparative material.

***Lophortyx californica orecta*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON QUAIL

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Lophortyx californica californica* [= *vallicola*], from the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys, California, but larger, averaging darker, and having the back with much more olivaceous suffusion which thus contrasts more strongly with the color of the nape.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (12 specimens, from the Warner Valley region): wing, 109–119 (average, 113.9) mm.; tail, 77–91 (82.6); exposed culmen, 12–13 (12.5); tarsus, 28–31.5 (30.3); middle toe without claw, 25.5–28 (26.8). *Adult female* (4 specimens, from the Warner Valley region): wing, 111.5–117 (113); tail, 67–82 (75.8); exposed culmen, 11–11.3 (11.1); tarsus, 29–30 (29.4); middle toe, 26–27.5 (26.5).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15001, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; mouth of Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; October 17, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 3593.

Geographic distribution.—Warner Valley region, central southern Oregon.

Remarks.—This interesting new quail is apparently confined to the region of the Warner Valley, where it is undoubtedly native. I am informed by Mr. Stanley G. Jewett that there is no record or evidence that this species has been introduced into this area. Birds from farther west are smaller and otherwise less typical, and were a sufficient series available might be found to belong to *Lophortyx californica californica* [= *vallicola*].¹

***Phalaenoptilus nuttallii nyctophilus*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON POOR-WILL

Subspecific characters.—Of the same size as *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii nuttallii* from the Rocky Mountains, but in the light phase much paler, brighter, more silvery above; in the dark phase brighter and averaging rather darker and less ochraceous, with more contrast between the light and dark areas, there being thus much more difference between the extremes of the light and dark phases than exists in *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii nuttallii*; white tips of outer rectrices broader, particularly in the female; and the buffy bars on the rectrices averaging less distinct, particularly on the terminal half of the tail.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (11 specimens, from Oregon, California, and Nevada): wing, 139–146 (average, 143.1) mm.; tail, 78.5–91 (85.9); exposed culmen, 10–12.5 (11.1); tarsus, 17–20 (18.5); middle toe without claw, 15–17 (16.3); white tip of outermost tail-feather, 16–21 (17.6). *Adult female* (11 specimens, from Oregon, California, and Nevada): wing, 137–151.5 (142.3); tail, 82–93 (86); exposed culmen, 9–12 (10.5); tarsus, 17–20 (18.6); middle toe without claw, 15–17.5 (16.5); white tip of outermost tail-feather, 11–14.5 (12.8).

Type.—Adult female, No. 15002, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Hart Mountain, near site of old Fort Warner, northern end of Warner Valley, 20 miles northeast of Adel, Oregon; August 9, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 3030.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in Oregon, Nevada, and the adjoining eastern

¹For this change of subspecific name, cf. Grinnell, Condor, Vol. XXXIII, No. 1, Jan., 1931, pp. 37–38.

edge of California east of the Sierra Nevada, and south to the Death Valley region. Winter range unknown.

Remarks.—This is a race of bright and contrasting colors above, and interestingly with great difference between the light and dark phases. The width of the white tip of the outermost tail-feather in *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii nuttallii* is as follows: male, 13–19 (16); female, 9.5–12.8 (10.8). This new subspecies appears to be most typical in the Warner Valley region. Birds from the southern part of its range, as above given, seem to incline a little toward *Phalaenoptilus nuttallii hueyi* of the lower Colorado Valley. Walker obtained 9 specimens of this new bird in the Warner Valley region.

***Empidonax traillii adastus*, subsp. nov.**

MOUNTAIN FLYCATCHER

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Empidonax traillii brewsteri*, but with upper parts more grayish or greenish (less yellowish or rufescent) brown.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from Idaho and Oregon): wing, 69.5–73.8 (average, 71.8) mm.; tail, 59–62 (60.6); exposed culmen, 11–12.8 (12.1); tarsus, 17–18 (17.4). *Adult female* (10 specimens from Idaho): wing, 65.3–72 (67.8); tail, 55.5–61 (58.2); exposed culmen, 11.3–12.8 (12.1); tarsus, 16–18 (17).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15003, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Hart Mountain, northern end of Warner Valley, 20 miles northeast of Adel, Oregon; June 13, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2566.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the northwestern United States, north to Idaho and eastern Washington; west to central Washington and central eastern California; south to central eastern California, northern Nevada and central Colorado; and east to Wyoming and western Montana. Migrates through Michoacan, Guerrero, and Morelos in Mexico; and winters from Nicaragua southeastward perhaps to northern South America.

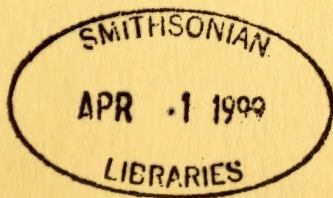
Remarks.—This very interesting form of the Traill flycatcher differs from *Empidonax traillii traillii* in its paler, more brownish upper parts and larger bill, in the latter character agreeing with *Empidonax traillii brewsteri*. There has been available a large series of this new form from Oregon, Idaho, and Wyoming. As a definite geographic race, it carries to the extreme the gray-brown phase of the species. Birds from northern Utah, central Colorado, and central eastern California are intermediate, but are nearer this race than to *Empidonax traillii brewsteri*. Birds from central and northeastern Nevada are, however, to be referred to the latter race. All the names that have been bestowed on this species pertain to the recognized forms, so that the present subspecies has hitherto remained unchristened.

***Tyrannus tyrannus hespericola*, subsp. nov.**

WESTERN KINGBIRD

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Tyrannus tyrannus tyrannus* from the eastern United States, but wing, tail, and tarsus, longer; white tip of tail broader; and upper surface with less of black or slate mixture, thus more uniform, and rather lighter.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from Oregon and Idaho): wing, 118–127 (average, 121.6) mm.; tail, 81–91 (87.6); exposed culmen, 15–18.5 (16.6); tarsus,



20–22.5 (21.1); middle toe without claw, 12–13.5 (13); width of white tip of middle tail-feather, 10–14.5 (12.1). *Adult female* (5 specimens, from Oregon and Idaho): wing, 111–119.5 (114.6); tail, 78–82 (80.4); exposed culmen, 15–17 (16.3); tarsus, 20–22 (21.3); middle toe without claw, 12–14 (12.6); width of white tip of middle tail-feather, 11–13 (12.2).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15004, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; mouth of Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; May 21, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2378.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds north to central Manitoba, southern Mackenzie, and southern British Columbia; west to central Oregon; south to central Nevada and northern New Mexico; and east to New Mexico and North Dakota. Winters in southern Mexico and probably also to South America.

Remarks.—The difference in size between this western race and the eastern bird is shown in the following comparative average measurements of eastern males: wing, 118; tail, 83.6; exposed culmen, 16.4; tarsus, 18.2; middle toe without claw, 14.1; width of white tip of middle rectrix, 9.1. All the specific and subspecific names applied to this species were based on the bird from eastern North America, leaving the present form without a subspecific designation.

Otocoris alpestris lamprochroma, subsp. nov.

OREGON HORNED LARK

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Otocoris alpestris merrilli*, but with upper parts paler, the brown areas more grayish (less rufescent); in winter plumage also paler, more grayish above, and less extensively suffused with yellow on anterior lower parts.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (15 specimens, from central southern Oregon): wing, 101–106 (average, 102.6) mm.; tail, 61–69 (66.5); exposed culmen, 10.5–12.5 (11.6); tarsus, 20–23 (21.6); middle toe without claw, 10–12 (11.3). *Adult female* (10 specimens, from central southern Oregon): wing, 92–98 (94.8); tail, 56–62.5 (58.6); exposed culmen, 10–12.5 (11.3); tarsus, 18.5–22 (20.6), middle toe without claw, 10–12 (10.8).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15005, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Spanish Lake, east base of Hart Mountain, northern end of Warner Valley, 20 miles north-east of Adel, Oregon; June 12, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2557.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Valley region of central southern Oregon, north to the mouth of the Deschutes River in the central northern part of the state; and south to the Carson Valley, central western Nevada. Casual in spring east to Harney County, Oregon. Winter home unknown, but probably in Nevada or Arizona.

Remarks.—This interesting new form is similar to *Otocoris alpestris praticola*, but is smaller, paler above, and more extensively yellow on anterior lower parts, forehead, and superciliary stripe, particularly in winter. It resembles *Otocoris alpestris leucolaema*, but is smaller, with upper parts posterior to nape darker, more blackish, and more grayish (less ochraceous); nape and rump more pinkish (less ochraceous) cinnamon. Birds from the Warner Valley are most typical. Those from farther north in Oregon, as far as the mouth of the Deschutes River, verge

somewhat toward *Otocoris alpestris merrilli*. Birds from Quincy, California, are also to be referred here, although inclining toward *Otocoris alpestris sierrae*. Specimens from the vicinity of Carson, and of Pyramid Lake, Nevada, which have sometimes been referred to the eastern *Otocoris alpestris praticola*, are really nearer this new race, although, of course, somewhat intermediate between it and the geographically adjoining forms, *Otocoris alpestris leucolaema* and *Otocoris alpestris sierrae*. Of this new race about 70 adults in breeding plumage and about 50 in winter dress have been available for examination.

***Stelgidopteryx ruficollis aphractus*, subsp. nov.**

WESTERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis serripennis*, but averaging somewhat larger; lower parts paler, the middle of the abdomen more clearly white (less tinged with grayish); and upper parts averaging darker, more sooty (less rufescent).

Measurements.—*Adult male* (17 specimens, from Oregon, Idaho, California, and Wyoming): wing, 108–115 (average, 111.4) mm.; tail, 48–52 (50.2); exposed culmen, 5.5–7 (6.3); tarsus, 11–12.5 (11.7); middle toe without claw, 9–10.5 (9.6). *Adult female* (10 specimens, from Oregon, Idaho, and Washington): wing, 100.5–110 (105.2); tail, 45.5–50 (48); exposed culmen, 6.3–7 (6.6); tarsus, 11–12.5 (11.9); middle toe without claw, 9.3–10 (9.6).

Type.—Adult female, No. 15006, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; April 23, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2151.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the northwestern United States, north to Washington; west to central Washington and central Oregon; south to California, Colorado, also probably to northern Arizona and northern New Mexico; and east to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado and Montana.

Remarks.—Differences that separate this subspecies from the eastern race are easily appreciated in a series. From *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis psammochrous*² it differs in its darker upper parts and rather darker anterior lower surface. Specimens from the Rocky Mountain region are a little darker below than those from the Warner Valley in Oregon, but are decidedly nearer this new race than to the typical eastern bird. Birds from southern Arizona, north to Fort Verde in central Arizona, are somewhat intermediate between the Oregon bird and *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis psammochrous*, but are nearer the latter. The range of *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis psammochrous* should, therefore, be extended into the United States as far as central Arizona, westward to Lower California, and southward in Mexico to Jalisco, Sinaloa, and Nayarit; also, in winter at least, to Michoacan.

Breeding birds from the State of Vera Cruz are, however, *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis fulvipennis* (Sclater),³ as has already been shown by Bangs.⁴ This, therefore, is

²Griscom, Proc. New England Zool. Club, Vol. XI, Dec. 14, 1929, p. 72 ("Oposura, Sonora, Mexico").

³*Cotyle fulvipennis* Sclater, Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Vol. XXVII, 1859 [April 1, 1860], p. 364 ("vicinity of Jalapa in the State of Vera Cruz" [Mexico]).

⁴Proc. New England Zool. Club, Vol. II, July 31, 1901, p. 59.

the same as *Stelgidopteryx salvini* Ridgway,⁵ since Griscom has shown⁶ that this latter is the breeding bird of the same region, and consequently *Stelgidopteryx salvini* becomes a synonym of *Stelgidopteryx ruficollis fulvipennis*.

***Petrochelidon albifrons arophata*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON CLIFF SWALLOW

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Petrochelidon albifrons hypopolia* from Mackenzie and Alaska, but lower parts paler, and forehead more buffy (less clearly whitish).

Measurements.—*Adult male* (7 specimens from Adel, Oregon): wing, 109–113.3 (average, 111.2) mm.; tail, 49–52.5 (50.2); exposed culmen, 7–8 (7.3); tarsus, 12.3–14 (13.2); middle toe without claw, 11–12.8 (12). *Adult female* (3 specimens from Adel, Oregon): wing, 108–112 (109.8); tail, 48.5–50 (49.3); exposed culmen, 7–8 (7.5); tarsus, 12–14 (13); middle toe without claw, 10.8–12.5 (11.8).

Type.—Adult male, No 15007, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; mouth of Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; June 19, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2611.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Valley region of central southern Oregon. Winter range unknown, but probably South America.

Remarks.—The breeding cliff swallows of this new race from the Warner Valley are large and gray below, differing in this respect from the more eastern forms, and are nearest to the Canadian subspecies, *Petrochelidon albifrons hypopolia*.

***Cyanocitta stelleri syncolla*, subsp. nov.**

WARNER JAY

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis*, but decidedly larger; and somewhat darker, both above and below.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (2 specimens from Oregon): wing, 152–152.5 (average, 152.3) mm.; tail, 140–145 (142.3); exposed culmen, 27–29 (28); tarsus, 43–44 (43.5); middle toe without claw, 23.5–25 (24.3). *Adult female* (4 specimens from Oregon and northeastern California): wing, 142.5–148 (144.6); tail, 130–138 (132.7); exposed culmen, 23–27 (25.7); tarsus, 40–42.5 (41.1); middle toe without claw, 24–26 (25).

Type.—Adult female, No. 15017, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Barley Camp, Warner Mountains, 14 miles southwest of Adel, Oregon, altitude 6400 feet, July 10, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2794.

Geographic distribution.—Central southern Oregon and northeastern California.

Remarks.—The bird inhabiting the Warner Mountains is apparently the extreme development in a northeastern direction of *Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis* of the Sierra Nevada in California. It differs from *Cyanocitta stelleri carbonacea* in its larger size and much paler upper and lower parts, and from the bird of the coast areas of Oregon and Washington in its much paler upper and lower parts. Birds from the Warner Mountains are most typical, yet examples from Lakeview, Oregon, and from Aden, northeastern California, though darker and verging somewhat toward

⁵Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., No. 50, Part III, Dec. 31, 1904, p. 62 ("Dueñas, Guatemala").

⁶Proc. New England Zool. Club, Vol. XI, Dec. 14, 1929, pp. 70–71.

the bird of the Oregon coast area, are of the same size as *Cyanocitta stelleri syncolla*, and are better referred to this form.

***Cyanocitta stelleri paralia*, subsp. nov.**

EVERGREEN JAY

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Cyanocitta stelleri stelleri* from Alaska and Vancouver Island, but smaller; of a lighter, more greenish blue on both upper and lower parts; light blue streaks on the forehead more conspicuous; back more washed with bluish.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from Oregon): wing, 139.5–151.5 (average, 143.9) mm.; tail, 130–143 (134.6); exposed culmen, 27.3–31 (28.7); tarsus, 42–46 (43.9); middle toe without claw, 24–26 (25). *Adult female* (10 specimens from Oregon): wing, 136.5–147 (140.6); tail, 121.5–138 (130); exposed culmen, 27–29.5 (28.1); tarsus, 41–46 (43.3); middle toe without claw, 23–26 (24.8).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15018, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Pleasant Valley, 9 miles southeast of Tillamook, Oregon; January 14, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 1428.

Geographic distribution.—Western Oregon and western Washington, north to the mainland of southwestern British Columbia, exclusive of Vancouver Island; and east to the Cascade Mountains.

Remarks.—This new race differs from *Cyanocitta stelleri carbonacea* in its larger size; more blackish, though darker, back; less greenish tone of the blue, both above and below; and in having the light bluish streaks on the forehead less conspicuous. The coastal birds of Oregon and Washington are so different, as above indicated, from both *Cyanocitta stelleri stelleri* and *Cyanocitta stelleri carbonacea* that they are best regarded as a separate subspecies as are so many other forms inhabiting the same area. In fact, these birds have sometimes been referred to one, sometimes to the other of the races mentioned above. Birds from the southwestern corner of the mainland of British Columbia, such as those from Agassiz and Lund, verge somewhat toward *Cyanocitta stelleri stelleri*, but are nearer the present form. Birds from Vancouver Island (the type locality of *Cyanocitta stelleri*) are, on the other hand, apparently identical with birds from southeastern Alaska.

***Baeolophus inornatus zaleptus*, subsp. nov.**

WARNER VALLEY TITMOUSE

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Baeolophus inornatus griseus*, but much more clearly grayish above with practically none of the brownish tinge so evident in the latter race; also paler above; and somewhat lighter, more clearly grayish below, with little or no buffy wash.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (1 specimen from Adel, Oregon): wing, 73 mm.; tail, 59.8; exposed culmen, 11; tarsus, 20.5; middle toe without claw, 12. *Adult female* (1 specimen from Adel, Oregon): wing, 71.8; tail, 61; exposed culmen, 12; tarsus, 21; middle toe without claw, 12.

Type.—Adult female, No. 15008, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; rim of Warner Valley northwest of the Jacobs Ranch, Twenty Mile Creek, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; May 3, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2231.

Geographic distribution.—Resident in the Warner Valley region of central southern Oregon.

Remarks.—This very interesting new race is most like *Baeolophus inornatus griseus*, but very different from *Baeolophus inornatus sequestratus* Grinnell in its larger size and much paler, more grayish coloration.

***Thryomanes bewickii atrestus*, subsp. nov.**

WARNER VALLEY WREN

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Thryomanes bewickii drymoeus* from the San Joaquin Valley, California, but much less rufescent (more grayish) above; somewhat darker; and averaging larger.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens, from southern Oregon): wing, 52.5–55 (average, 53.8) mm.; tail, 50.5–55.5 (52.7); exposed culmen, 14–14.8 (14.3); tarsus, 18.5–20 (19.1); middle toe without claw, 11.5–12.5 (12.1). *Adult female* (5 specimens, from southern Oregon): wing, 49.5–51.5 (50.4); tail, 45–53.5 (49.7); exposed culmen, 12.5–13.5 (13); tarsus, 18–19.5 (18.7); middle toe without claw, 11–12 (11.6).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15009, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; mouth of Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; October 17, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 3595.

Geographic distribution.—Resident in central southern Oregon, from the Warner Valley west to Medford and Ashland, and north to Gold Hill.

Remarks.—This new race is most typical in the Warner Valley. Birds from localities west to Gold Hill, Ashland, Keno, and Klamath Falls are somewhat rufescent above, thus inclining a little toward the race occupying the coast of Oregon. Compared with *Thryomanes bewickii calophonus* the present form is so much smaller and more grayish that it needs no special comparison. Altogether a series of 20 examples has been available.

***Hylocichla guttata oromela*, subsp. nov.**

CASCADE HERMIT THRUSH

Subspecific characters.—Of the same size as *Hylocichla guttata guttata* from southern Alaska, but with upper parts decidedly paler and more grayish or greenish (less brownish or rufescent).

Measurements.—*Adult male* (8 specimens from Oregon, California, and Washington): wing, 87–92.5 (average, 88.9) mm.; tail, 64.5–70.5 (66.7); exposed culmen, 12–13.5 (12.7); tarsus, 28–30 (28.9); middle toe without claw, 15–17 (15.6). *Adult female* (10 specimens from Washington): wing, 82.3–89.8 (84.7); tail, 62–67.5 (64.2); exposed culmen, 12.5–14 (13.2); tarsus, 26–29 (27.8); middle toe without claw, 15.5–17 (16.1).

Type.—Male, No. 15010, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; north base of Crook Peak, Warner Mountains, 15 miles northeast of Lakeview, Oregon; August 28, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 3187.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds from central northern California, north through central and western Oregon, and central and western Washington, to central southern British Columbia. Winters south to southern Lower California (Mount

Miraflores), southeastern California (Panamint Mountains), southwestern California (Petaluma), Chihuahua (Colonia Garcia), central Texas, and central Nuevo Leon (Linares). Of casual occurrence, at least in migration, in New Mexico (Chusca Mountains, October 10, 1908), and also west to southwestern British Columbia (Vancouver). Accidental in Ohio.

Remarks.—It is similar to *Hylocichla guttata sequoiensis*, but is smaller and more grayish. It somewhat resembles *Hylocichla guttata slevini*, but is larger and more grayish as well as somewhat darker. Birds from central northern California incline toward *Hylocichla guttata sequoiensis*, but are probably better referred to the present form. As in many of the races of this species there are two color phases of plumage, gray and rufescent; and comparisons, therefore, need, of course, to be made with specimens of the proper phase. In its rufescent phase it is not nearly so rufescent as is *Hylocichla guttata guttata*. Apparently none of the names that have been applied to the hermit thrushes refer to this bird.

***Vireosylva gilva leucopolia*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON WARBLING VIREO

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Vireosylva gilva swainsonii*, and of the same size, but with the upper parts paler, more clearly grayish, and with less tinge of olivaceous, particularly on the back; lower parts rather paler, more clearly white.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (7 specimens from Adel, Oregon): wing, 65.5–69 (average, 67.1) mm.; tail, 46.5–51.5 (49.1); exposed culmen, 9.5–10.3 (10); tarsus, 17–18.5 (17.7); middle toe without claw, 9–9.8 (9.5). *Adult female* (5 specimens from Oregon): wing, 65.5–70 (67.2); tail, 47.5–52.5 (49.2); exposed culmen, 10; tarsus, 17.5–18 (17.9); middle toe without claw, 9.8–11 (10.4).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15011, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Barley Camp, Warner Mountains, 14 miles southwest of Adel, Oregon, altitude 6400 feet; July 15, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2840.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Valley region of central southern Oregon, north to central Oregon; and south to central western Nevada. Migrates through southeastern California (Laguna Dam), southwestern Arizona (Yuma), and central Arizona (Mayer); and winters probably in Mexico.

Remarks.—This interesting new subspecies appears to be confined in the breeding season in the Warner Valley and to a narrow area north and south of this region, as birds to the east and to the west belong to other races.

***Euphagus cyanocephalus aliaustus*, subsp. nov.**

WESTERN BREWER BLACKBIRD

Subspecific characters.—Similar in size to *Euphagus cyanocephalus cyanocephalus* from the Rocky Mountain region, but female darker, particularly below, and usually less rufescent (more grayish); male with posterior lower surface more bluish (less yellowish) metallic green.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from Oregon): wing, 126.5–133 (average, 130) mm.; tail, 95.5–104.5 (100); exposed culmen, 18–20.8 (19.4); tarsus, 30–34 (32.2); middle toe without claw, 20.5–23 (22.2). *Adult female* (10 specimens

from Oregon): wing, 115–122 (117.5); tail, 87–93 (89.8); exposed culmen, 17–19 (17.8); tarsus, 30–31.8 (30.5); middle toe without claw, 19.8–22 (20.8).

Type.—Adult female, No. 15012, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; May 2, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2230.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Pacific coast region from central British Columbia to northern California. Winters from southern British Columbia and southern Idaho to southern Arizona.

Remarks.—Males of this species are apparently not, in size, distinguishable from the typical *Euphagus cyanocephalus cyanocephalus*, but the posterior lower parts average more bluish (less yellowish) metallic green. Juvenal specimens of *Euphagus cyanocephalus alaiustus* are even more different from the same age of the typical race than are adults, being much darker above and below and decidedly less rufescent.

Since the original description of *Euphagus cyanocephalus*⁷ was based on a male bird from Mexico, which at the time of the original description probably came from central or southeastern Mexico; and since now there is no definite means of identifying the subspecies, it seems wisest to fix as the typical race the bird breeding in the Rocky Mountain region and wintering in Mexico. None of the other names applied to this species refer to the Oregon race.

***Oberholseria chlorura zapolia*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Oberholseria chlorura chlorura* from the Rocky Mountains, but upper parts, particularly the back, more grayish (less greenish or brownish); and in winter, if brownish above, this color less rufescent (more grayish), and the olive green less yellowish; flanks more grayish (less extensively and less brightly buffy); anterior lower surface more clearly gray (less buffy), and averaging somewhat darker.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from Oregon and California): wing, 77–81.5 (average, 78.8) mm.; tail, 77–86.5 (80.1); exposed culmen, 11.8–13.5 (12.4); tarsus, 24–27 (25.2); middle toe without claw, 15–17 (15.8). *Adult female* (10 specimens from Oregon and California): wing, 74–78 (75.8); tail, 74.5–83.5 (79.5); exposed culmen, 11–13 (11.7); tarsus, 22–25 (23.8); middle toe without claw, 15–16.8 (15.7).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15013, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Hart Mountain, northern end of Warner Valley, 20 miles northeast of Adel, Oregon; June 9, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2515.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Valley region in central southern Oregon, north to Sisters, central Oregon; south to southwestern Nevada, and southeastern California to the San Jacinto Mountains, including the Lake Tahoe region; east to northeastern Nevada. Casual, at least in migration, to Vail in eastern Oregon. Winters from southwestern California and southern Arizona (Rincon Mountains and Springerville) south to southern Lower California and southern Sonora, and casually east to central western Texas.

⁷*Ps[arocolius]. cyanocephalus* Wagler, Isis von Oken, Band XXII, Heft 7, July, 1829, col. 758 ("Mexico." We here designate the Valley of Mexico as the typical locality).

Remarks.—Birds of this species from all of the Rocky Mountain region are apparently identical and represent the typical race. The type of *Oberholseria chlorura*, which was collected by J. K. Townsend in the Rocky Mountain region of southern Idaho on Ross Creek, 20 miles southwest of Blackfoot, has been examined in the present connection, and agrees, of course, with other Rocky Mountain specimens. The bird described by Gambel as *Fringilla blandingiana*⁸ is the same as *Oberholseria chlorura chlorura*. The Oregon bird is thus without a name. Specimens from California and Nevada are slightly intermediate, but nearer the present race, which is most typical in the Warner Valley region. Twenty-nine specimens from Oregon have been examined in addition to a series from Nevada.

***Poocetes gramineus definitus*, subsp. nov.**

GREAT BASIN VESPER SPARROW

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Poocetes gramineus confinis* from North Dakota and Montana, but with white area on the inner web of the outer tail-feather much less in linear extent, and absent on the inner web of the second rectrix from the outside (except sometimes for a very narrow tip or whitish edging); upper parts averaging paler; and size slightly greater.

Measurements.—*Adult male* (10 specimens from southern Oregon): wing, 80–86.5 (average, 83.7) mm.; tail, 61–68 (64.2); exposed culmen, 10–11 (10.4); tarsus, 20–22 (21.1); middle toe without claw, 13.5–15 (14.3); length of white on inner web of outer tail-feather, 26.5–42.5 (32.5). *Adult female* (10 specimens from Oregon, California, and Arizona): wing, 75.5–82 (average, 78.6 mm.); tail, 58–65.5 (61.2); exposed culmen, 10–11 (10.6); tarsus, 20–22 (20.9); middle toe without claw, 13.3–14.5 (14); length of white on inner web of outer tail-feather, 26–39 (32.3).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15014, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; May 3, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2236.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in Nevada and central eastern California, north to interior Washington, and east to southeastern Oregon (Harney); winters from southern California and southwestern Arizona (Yuma), south to Chihuahua (Colonia Diaz), Sonora (Alamos), Sinaloa (Culiacan), and the State of Mexico (Tlalpam); casual in migration east to central Texas.

Remarks.—Birds from Idaho are intermediate, but are slightly nearer the Plains race, the breeding range of which is thus the Great Plains and the Rocky Mountain region north to central Canada, west to Idaho and Utah, south to New Mexico and Arizona, and east to North Dakota; and it winters from the southwestern United States south to southern Mexico.

The white area on the inner web of the outer tail-feather in *Poocetes gramineus confinis* measures 33–61.5 mm. (average, 40.9). The type of the western vesper sparrow⁹ came from the Loup Fork of the Platte River in central Nebraska, and is an example of the race breeding on the Great Plains and in the Rocky Mountains, so that the Great Basin race has hitherto been without a name.

⁸Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., I, No. 24–25, April, 1843, p. 260 ("Rocky Mountains about half way between New Mexico and Colorado of the west").

⁹*Poocetes gramineus* var. *confinis* Baird, in Baird, Cassin, and Lawrence, Rep. Expl. and Surv. R. R. Pac., Vol. IX, 1858, p. 448.

***Chondestes grammacus actitus*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON LARK SPARROW

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Chondestes grammacus strigatus* from Mexico, but with the upper parts, excepting the chestnut stripes of the head, decidedly paler; wing somewhat longer.

Measurements.—Adult male (10 specimens from Adel, Oregon): wing, 87.5–95.5 (average, 91.5) mm.; tail, 68–75 (71); exposed culmen, 11.3–12.5 (12); tarsus, 20–22 (20.9); middle toe without claw, 14–17 (15.4).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15015, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; mouth of Twenty Mile Creek, Warner Valley, 9 miles south of Adel, Oregon; May 26 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2411.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Valley of southern Oregon. In migration, probably also in winter, south to southern Arizona (Redington).

Remarks.—This interesting new form breeds, so far as known, in only central Oregon, and is apparently without a name. The western lark sparrow was originally described¹⁰ from Temiscaltepec in the State of Mexico on the southern part of the Mexican tableland, and the name with little doubt was based on the breeding bird of northern Mexico and southern Arizona, which is of the same size as the measurements given of the type of *Chondestes strigatus*, and which ranges in winter south to Sinaloa, Oaxaca, and Chiapas. We, therefore, now restrict the name *Chondestes strigatus* to this subspecies. A series of 18 specimens from the Warner Valley has been available for the characterization of *Chondestes grammacus actitus*.

***Zonotrichia leucophrys oriantha*, subsp. nov.**

OREGON WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* from north-eastern Manitoba, but much paler above, particularly on nape, back, and rump, as well as below on breast and flanks; also more grayish (less brownish) on rump, back, and flanks; and somewhat larger.

Measurements.—Adult male (10 specimens from Oregon): wing, 77–82 (average, 79.2) mm.; tail, 71–77.5 (73.7); exposed culmen, 10.5–11.5 (11); tarsus, 23.5–25 (24); middle toe without claw, 16–17.5 (16.8). Adult female (10 specimens from Oregon): wing, 71.5–77 (74.4); tail, 67–73 (70.2); exposed culmen, 10.8–11.8 (11.2); tarsus, 22–24 (22.9); middle toe without claw, 15–17 (16).

Type.—Adult male, No. 15016, Cleveland Museum of Natural History; Barley Camp, Warner Mountains, 14 miles southwest of Adel, Oregon, altitude 6400 feet; July 8, 1930; Alex Walker, original number, 2771.

Geographic distribution.—Breeds in the Warner Mountains, Oregon, south to central eastern California. Winters from Arizona and southern California, south to Lower California, Chihuahua, and Jalisco, in Mexico. Casual in southern Texas.

Remarks.—This new white-crowned sparrow is of the *leucophrys* type as contrasted with the white-lored species *Zonotrichia gambelii*, which latter seems to be specifically distinct, since its range overlaps that of *Zonotrichia leucophrys*. Thus *Zonotrichia gambelii* breeds south to eastern British Columbia, Montana, and York Factory in Manitoba, in which localities *Zonotrichia leucophrys* also breeds.

¹⁰*Chondestes strigatus* Swainson, Philos. Mag., n. s., Vol. I, No. 6, June, 1827, p. 435.